GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6405
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2002
SHORTAGE OF NURSES IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS
RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the shortage of nurses in all the government Hospitals, Medical Institutions and Nursing Homes in the country;

(b) if so, the average ratio of doctor : nurses in Central Government Hospitals and other Medical Institutions and Centres in the country;

(c) whether certain recruiting and placement agencies have been granted licence to recruit nurses and to send them to the US and other developed countries; and

(d) if so, the number of nurses recruited by these recruiting agencies and sent to different countries during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT

(a): As informed by the Indian Nursing Council, the total number of Nursing personnel registered in the State Nursing Councils as on 31st December 2000 is 7,75,812.

(b): The ration of doctor: Nurse in the Country is 1:1.41.

(c)&(d): The Ministry of Labour has informed that it administers the Emigration Act, 1983.This Act regulates the terms and conditions of overseas employment and seeks to protect and safeguard the interests of Indian workers going overseas for employment on contractual basis. Under the provisions of the Act, a foreign employer can recruit any citizen of India for employment in any Country either through a registered recruiting agent or directly after obtaining a valid permit from the competent authority. The registration of recruiting agents under the Emigration Act, 1983 commenced from January 1984 and since then till 31st December 2001 registration certificates were issued by the Protector General of Emigrants to 3487 recruiting agents.This figure includes 9 State Manpower Export Corporations established in the State of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.However, at present about 1250 recruiting agents are engaged in this business with valid registration certificates. These recruiting agents have been given license to recruit all types of workers, including Nurses. No separate licence is issued for recruitment of Nurses. The Ministry of Labour has also informed that no such data in consolidated from in respect of number of Nurses emigrated to different countries is maintained.